

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 195

Concerning the crisis in Cambodia.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 1997

Mr. GILMAN (for himself, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. PORTER, Mr. FALOMAVAEGA, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. LEACH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Concerning the crisis in Cambodia.

Whereas during the 1970s and 1980s Cambodia was wracked by political conflict, civil war, foreign invasion, protracted violence, and a genocide perpetrated by the Khmer Rouge from 1975 to 1979;

Whereas the Paris Agreement on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodia Conflict led to the end of 2 decades of civil war and genocide in Cambodia, demonstrated the commitment of the Cambodian people to democracy and stability, and established a national constitution guaranteeing fundamental human rights;

Whereas the 1991 Paris Peace Accords set the stage for a process of political accommodation, national reconcili-

ation, and the founding of a state based on democratic principles;

Whereas the international donor community contributed more than \$3,000,000,000 in an effort to secure peace, democracy, and stability in Cambodia following the Paris Peace Accords and currently provides over 40 percent of the budget of the Cambodian Government;

Whereas the Cambodian people clearly demonstrated their support for democracy when over 93 percent of eligible Cambodian voters participated in United Nations sponsored elections in 1993;

Whereas since the 1993 elections, Cambodia has made significant progress, as evidenced by the decision last month of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to extend membership to Cambodia;

Whereas notwithstanding the notable societal and economic progress since the elections of 1993, concern has increasingly been raised regarding the fragile state of democracy in Cambodia, in particular the quality of the judicial system, which has been described in a United Nations report as thoroughly corrupt; unsolved attacks in 1995 on officials of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party; and the unsolved murders of journalists and political activists;

Whereas tensions within the Cambodian Government have erupted into violence in recent months;

Whereas on March 30, 1997, 19 Cambodians were killed and more than 100 were wounded in a grenade attack on a peaceful political demonstration in Phnom Penh;

Whereas in June 1997 fighting erupted in Phnom Penh between military and paramilitary forces loyal to First

Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Second Prime Minister Hun Sen;

Whereas on July 5, 1997, Second Prime Minister Hun Sen deposed the First Prime Minister in a violent military coup d'etat;

Whereas at least several dozen opposition politicians have died in the custody of Hun Sen's forces, some after being tortured, and hundreds of others have been detained due to their political affiliation;

Whereas democracy and stability in Cambodia are threatened by the continued use of violence to resolve political differences;

Whereas the administration has suspended assistance to Cambodia for 1 month in response to the deteriorating situation in Cambodia; and

Whereas the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has decided to delay indefinitely Cambodian membership: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2       resentatives that—

3               (1) the forcible assault upon the democratically  
4       elected Government of Cambodia is illegal and unac-  
5       ceptable;

6               (2) the recent events in Cambodia constitute a  
7       military coup against the duly elected democratic  
8       Government of Cambodia;

9               (3) the authorities in Cambodia should take im-  
10      mediate steps to halt all extralegal violence and to

1 restore fully civil, political, and personal liberties to  
2 the Cambodian people, including freedom of the  
3 press, speech, and assembly, as well as the right to  
4 a democratically elected government;

5 (4) the United States should release the report  
6 by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning  
7 the March 30, 1997, grenade attack in Phnom  
8 Penh;

9 (5) the United States should press the authori-  
10 ties in Cambodia to investigate fully and impartially  
11 all abuses and extralegal actions that have occurred  
12 in Cambodia since July 4, 1997, and to bring to jus-  
13 tice all those responsible for such abuses and extra-  
14 legal actions;

15 (6) the administration should immediately in-  
16 voke section 508 of the Foreign Operations, Export  
17 Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations  
18 Act, 1997 (Public Law 104–208), as it is required  
19 to do;

20 (7) the United States should urgently request  
21 an emergency meeting of the United Nations Secu-  
22 rity Council to consider all options to restore peace  
23 in Cambodia;

24 (8) the United States should encourage the Sec-  
25 retary General of the United Nations to expand the

1 monitoring operations of the United Nations Special  
2 Representative on Human Rights in Cambodia;

3 (9) the United States and the Association of  
4 Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) should coordi-  
5 nate efforts to restore democracy, stability, and the  
6 rule of law in Cambodia;

7 (10) direct United States assistance to the Gov-  
8 ernment of Cambodia should continue to be sus-  
9 pended until violence ends, a democratically elected  
10 government is reconstituted, necessary steps have  
11 been taken to ensure that the election scheduled for  
12 1998 takes place in a free and fair manner, the mili-  
13 tary is depoliticized, and the judiciary is made inde-  
14 pendent; and

15 (11) the United States should call for an emer-  
16 gency meeting of the Donors' Consultative Group for  
17 Cambodia to encourage the suspension of assistance  
18 as part of a multilateral effort to encourage respect  
19 for democratic processes, constitutionalism, and the  
20 rule of law.

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